

Thursday, January 27, 2005

The Almagest

Volume 46, Issue 1

NOEL MEMORIAL LIBRARY

JAN 28 2005

LSU SHREVEPORT

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Welcome Back Bash kicks off new semester

BY DERRICK MITCHAM

The Student Activities Board is hosting the second day of its annual Welcome Back Bash today during Common Hour. Tuesday was the first day of the event, which was designed to ease the transition back to school for old and new students alike.

The various types of entertainment included music provided by 94.5 and Stan Francis, wax hand making and pixie stick making. Workers from The Port served hot dogs, chili-dogs, Frito pie and lemonade to the waiting students.

Today's event will feature the same activities as Tuesday's, with a few additions such as air brush tattoos, ultimate imaging and caricature



Michael Tharpe and Shalunda Johnson, both freshman pre-nursing majors, make pixie sticks at Tuesday's Welcome Back Bash.

artists. The bash will run from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. today.

"It was good to see everybody chillin' together," said Terrance Neal, a senior accounting major and the SGA vice president. The Student Organization Council is hosting its fair during the bash as well.

The students who volunteered to take charge of the bash, P.J. Williamson and Elise Arsenault, believe that students should enjoy the many activities available to them at the event.

"Students should have fun. This was something to say welcome back to school," said Williamson, sophomore mass communications major.

Arsenault, freshman jour-

SEE WELCOME PAGE 4

Registration updates make the process more bearable

BY SARAH SWINT

This spring semester 4,043 students have enrolled in LSUS without the complications faced in previous semesters.

Last fall students dealt with several complications with registration and with financial aid.

"This is the smoothest semester I've seen in the five years I've been here."

*-Betty McCrary
director of financial aid*

"The problems faced in the fall were caused by the unexpected use of students using the new computer system all at the same time," said David Barham, assistant registrar.

Since last fall, Computing Services made many updates

and changes to the system. These adjustments have made registration much more successful and timely for students.

"This is the smoothest semester I've seen in the five years I've been here," said Betty McCrary, director of the financial aid department.

This semester, the financial aid department had fewer

students set up appointments due to delays in their financial aid awards. Many of the delays that did occur were a result of an error on the part of the student. Approximately 500 students failed to check the

SEE UPDATES PAGE 3

Promising player earns top honors

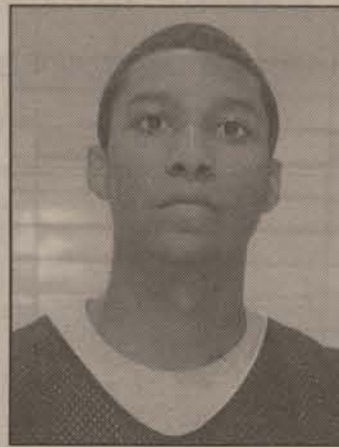
BY DOMINIQUE HORTON

Championship in high school, to being named the Class B

Fredericko Wayne Redondo Payne. Most people just know him by his nickname "Rico," but those who are basketball savvy also know him as the #1 player in the NAIA Division in scoring and in steals. However, aside from his basketball abilities, Payne is also a father who

loves his children and proudly says that they are what motivate him to be the absolute best.

Payne has had many sports-related accomplishments from winning the State



Fredericko Payne

Player of the Year to just this month being named the Gulf Coast Athletic Conference player of the week 2 weeks in a row.

Although Payne is now the #1 player in LSUS' division, this title did not come easy. When Payne attend-

ed Northwestern State University in Natchitoches, his playing time and recognition were a far cry from what they are now. Since transferring,

SEE PAYNE PAGE 5

WEEKLY WEATHER

Today:

Hi: 57

Lo: 41

Friday:

Showers

Hi: 53

Lo: 45

Saturday:

Few Showers

Hi: 60

Lo: 46

Sunday:

Mostly Cloudy

Hi: 67

Lo: 49

Monday:

Showers

Hi: 62

Lo: 48

Tuesday:

Showers

Hi: 60

Lo: 43

Wednesday:

Scat'd Showers

Hi: 60

Lo: 43

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Corrections

No corrections this week.

Editorial Policy

The information presented in this publication by no means reflects the opinions of the administration or staff of LSUS. *The Almagest* seeks to provide information for the LSUS campus and community; to involve students, faculty and staff; and to provide a public forum for ideas as guaranteed in the First Amendment of the Constitution. Letters to the Editor are encouraged. However, the staff reserves the right to edit letters for clarity, length, and content. Any letter submitted by a club or organization must be signed by all members of the group or by the group's president. *The Almagest* reserves the right not to publish submitted materials.

The Almagest is published on Thursday mornings and is printed by the Natchitoches Times.

Comments and complaints are welcome and should be addressed to Nikki Mora, Editor-in-Chief. They must be accompanied by your full name and e-mail address.

FROM THE EDITOR

As many of you may already know, Candice Leone, the former editor of the *Almagest*, graduated this past semester. While I'm sad to see her go, I'm also very excited to be the editor-in-chief of our school paper. As excited as I am, the thought is also a little intimidating. This paper is supposed to represent our school and all the students who attend here. That's a big responsibility. I want this paper to be something our school can be proud of, and I'm willing to work hard to make that happen.

But I need your help. I believe that every student at this school has a unique idea he or she could contribute to our publication or maybe even a critique of the way we do things. I'm not talking about the immature comments we get from time to time. We don't want the kind of criticism that has nothing to back it up. But if you do disagree with something we do and think you may have a positive suggestion, please let us know. We have a very small staff, and although we do the best we can, there is no possible way we can know what our readers are thinking about or wanting from our publication unless you tell us.

If you have any story ideas you can always come by and talk to me or even just e-mail the *Almagest*. We've taken several suggestions from our readers in the past and will continue to do so. After all, this is not Nikki Mora's paper. This is LSUS' school paper, and it is here to reflect our school as a whole.

We've got several new ideas that we want to try out including one idea you can read more about on the back page of this issue. More changes will be coming as the semester progresses. Please let us know what you think, and please share any ideas you might have. But most of all, make the most of this semester in every way that you can.

I know LSUS isn't a traditional college campus, but there are many activities out there to help you get involved. We'll try our best to keep you up-to-date on all the opportunities available to you. But be sure to tell us if you know of a club or organization that is having an event that other students might be interested in. We want to help spread the word about anything that might be of interest to the students at this school.

Best of luck this semester!

Girls & SPORTS



The Almagest letters policy

The Almagest requests your reactions through letters to the editor. Letters should be typed and double spaced. Please include your classification and major. Letters should be submitted to *the Almagest* office, BH 344, by 5 p.m. on the Friday preceding the Thursday publication date. Obscene, libelous and anonymous letters will not be printed.

The Almagest reserves the right to edit all letters.

Development on Youree Drive brings new dining options to LSUS students

BY TERRY HANLEY —

Over the past few years the area around Youree Drive near LSUS has developed from empty fields into crowded shopping centers. It has now become one of the busiest spots in Shreveport. Now, as the King's Crossing Shopping Center nears completion, even more businesses will soon be open.

Krispy Kreme Doughnuts held a groundbreaking Jan. 19 for its new location in southeast Shreveport. A mixed group of more than 200 people attended the ceremony, ranging from students to local elected officials. The celebration included a "Digging for Dollars" event that helped local school groups and non-profit organizations earn \$15,000 in total prizes by using shovels to dig for the buried bounty.

The company has seen financial problems recently, but that has not deterred their optimism for the new Shreveport location. Krispy Kreme had a location in Shreveport 17 years



PHOTO CREDIT

Kings Crossing on Youree Drive is the soon-to-be home of many new restaurants such as Romano's Macaroni Grill.

ago, which lasted only two years.

The thriving market on Youree Drive attracted the pastry giant to return to the area.

The new location is slated to open in April at 7251 Youree Drive.

Another new restaurant scheduled to open soon is caus-

ing a buzz among locals familiar with the famous chicken fingers. Raising Canes will open a location in the King's Crossing Shopping Center soon.

"I eat at Raising Canes after every LSU game, so knowing we are going to have one here soon excites me," said Briggs Sadler, a first-year physicians assistant student.

Raising Canes was started in 1996 by Todd Graves and Greg Silvey in Baton Rouge, a block from LSU's front gate. LSU students took to it quickly, and through word-of-mouth advertising the chicken fingers' popularity grew fast.

Canes—as it is affectionately known by frequenters—specializes in chicken fingers and sides, but it is the signature sauce that keeps people talking.

Canes has expanded to 24 locations, even venturing outside of Louisiana to Columbus, Ohio.

Other new businesses scheduled to open soon in the area include Romano's Macaroni Grill and the west coast staple Fatburger.

Students struggle to stick with resolutions

BY CATHERINE MCNAIR —

For some LSUS students, New Year's resolutions are a tradition for improving their lives each year. Whether it is to lose weight or get better grades, there is always something that can be done to improve upon the previous year.

People have probably been making New Year's resolutions since the Babylonians began keeping track of the changing seasons using a lunisolar calendar. Unfortunately, even the best of intentions do not always work out.

Jessica Anderson, a sophomore social science major, resolved to improve her relationship with her mother last year. "I'm a good kid, but I need some work to be a better daughter," Anderson said.

Anderson was able to change her behavior for a month, but by February she found herself slipping back into her old habits. This year, Anderson has resolved to study more and is determined to stick to it until the end of the semester.

Anderson has already begun to follow through with her resolution. "I spent two hours in the library studying French,"

Anderson said.

Based on experience, Anderson admits that "next week could be a different story." To accomplish her resolution to study more this semester, Anderson plans to start a study group and spend more time in the computer lab as well as in the library.

"With a little determination and a lot of hard work and discipline," Anderson said she expects to succeed with her resolution this year.

While Anderson has been able to keep her resolution so far, others have not been so successful.

Melanie Jasper, a freshman education major, tried to quit smoking but has already broken her resolution because of stress from life.

However, it is still a resolution that Jasper is determined to succeed at. "It's hard to quit, but I'll try again next week," Jasper said optimistically.

Other LSUS students did not bother to make resolutions this year. Holly Johnson, a senior general studies major, used to make resolutions but opted not to this year.

"You put all this effort in and then break them so quickly," Johnson said.

UPDATES

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"approval" on their Compass accounts, which resulted in the financial aid department having to redo most of those students' financial aid applications. Financial aid is dispersing delayed checks to those students daily and does not foresee the delays that occurred in the fall.

"The financial aid department plans on sending out a postcard to pre-registered students reminding them to check "approval" on their Compass accounts to prevent this from happening again," said McCrary.

To continue this success both financial aid and the reg-

istrar's office urge students to "become more Web site oriented." This is important because the summer 2005 schedule of classes will be the last printed schedule that LSUS plans to put out. Everything will be available to students exclusively via the Internet and their Compass accounts.

The financial aid department also urges students to be familiar with the Web site because now is the time to fill out FASFA forms to apply for financial aid in the fall. Students also need to be aware that student data forms and summer data forms will be available Feb. 1 for students to fill out to get financial aid awards for summer school.

the Almagest

wants your feedback

e-mail us at

almagest@pilot.lsus.edu

or call 797-5328

WELCOME
continued from page 1

nalism major said, "This is a good way to start off the semester. It gives students a chance to mingle."

Many students did just that as they crowded around the DJ table and stood together in groups throughout the University Center.

"Everyone seemed to be having a good time, and the music was good," said Kevin Brown, a sophomore business management major.

Every spring, LSUS holds its Welcome Back Bash around the second week of school when students are settling into their new schedules. This gives students a chance to see old friends and make some new ones all while partaking in the available festivities. These activities are funded by the students through the activities fee paid with their tuition.



ANDRE MEHARD

Nina Oka, freshman political science major, makes a pixie stick during Tuesday's celebration of the Welcome Back Bash.



ANDRE MEHARD

Jodi Vosburg makes a wax hand at Welcome Back Bash. Making wax hands was just one of the many activities offered to students at the Welcome Back Bash.

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PAYNE

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Payne averaged 676 minutes last season and he also averaged 35.6 points.

"Rico is a great player, hard to defend, and guarding him is really a challenge at practice; but if I can guard him, I feel that I can guard anyone come game time," says Carlon Simmons, also known as "Snoop," Payne's teammate and close friend.

After college, Payne plans to go overseas and continue his basketball career with hopes of being drafted by an NBA team. Payne said he would be happy to play with any NBA team and that he didn't really have a preference. However, before leaving LSUS, Payne has hopes of going to the national tournament and becoming an All American.

"Rico is a rare talent; he is capable of scoring from pretty much anywhere," said Coach Chad McDowell, the Pilots head coach. "More importantly than his ability as a basketball player is that he is a great young man as well. As a person, Rico has what it takes to be successful in anything he chooses. He's an intelligent and friendly person who everyone seems to love to be around."

Watching his game and how he dominates the basketball court makes it hard to believe that the "Rico" off the court is quite laid-back and nonchalant. Although Payne has a high regard for the two great basketball phenoms Michael Jordan and Stephan Marbury, his parents, children, and his late grandmother Diane are who he really admires most. Payne said the most rewarding thing about the game of basketball is not all the hype surrounding him, but it is simply hearing his oldest son reminiscing of what he saw his daddy do during one of his games. Because of his many ups and downs during his basketball ca-



DERRICK MITCHAM

Fredericko Payne leaps in the air to make the basket just before practice officially begins.

reer and life in general, Payne has learned a valuable lesson: "Sometimes things happen in life—unexpected."

"This season is dedicated to my loving parents and step parents, all my family and friends from Dubach, my old high school coach and, most of all my kids and grandma," said Payne.

To check out Payne and his teammates in action, attend one of LSUS' upcoming home games.

Watch the Pilots take on the following:

Southern University-New Orleans
2/5/2005
7:00 p.m.

Tougaloo College
2/17/2005
7:30 p.m.

William Carey College
2/26/2005
7:00 p.m.

Greeks showcase stepping tradition to students

BY KEMISHA WARE

The LSUS Pi Pi chapter of the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority is looking to bring both Greek and non-Greek students together by holding a Greek step show in the University Center Theatre which will take place Jan. 28.

"We welcome all students," said Pi Pi chapter advisor, Andranell Watley. "This event is not just for Greeks, but we do want to promote awareness of the black Greek population on campus."

According to Rachel Monroe, a junior-English major, stepping is historically linked to ethnic Greek organizations.

"The tradition of stepping can be traced back to Africa and the customary tribal dances," said Monroe, a member of Sigma Gamma Rho sorority. "Stepping is a tradition where members synchronize their moves so that they are in a sense performing their own dance, without music. In stepping the members will clap, stomp with their feet, jump and create their own beat by doing so."

According to Watley, the Greek step show will be a showcase of stepping from local sororities and fraternities, as well as groups from Louisiana Tech University in Ruston and Henderson State University in Arkadelphia, Ark.

Delta Sigma Theta is one of four Greek organiza-

tions at LSUS but the only historically black sorority on the campus. Because of the lack of diversity in the university's Greek system, Watley encourages all stu-

"The tradition of stepping can be traced back to Africa and the customary tribal dances. Stepping is a tradition where members synchronize their moves so that they are in a sense performing their own dance, without music."

*-Rachel Monroe
junior, English major
Sigma Gamma Rho sorority member*

dents to attend the show.

"There may not be a lot of black Greeks on campus, but there are a lot of organizations in the community," said Watley. "By attending the show, students

will get a chance to see groups that they may be interested in."

Rodney Moore, a junior finance major, said he would like members of the historically white Greek organizations on campus to attend the step show.

"I want them to know that the step show is not just for black Greeks," said Moore, a member of Kappa Alpha Psi. "The members of the historically white Greek groups are invited to attend and experience our culture."

Kappa Alpha Psi member Marcus Calhoun, a junior finance major, said the step show will help the university with recruiting minority students.

"A lot of high school students don't know that LSUS has black fraternities and sororities," said Calhoun. "The exposure will help the school get the word out."

The step show is set to begin at 7 p.m., with KBTT-FM disc jockey Fatha Flow set to host the event.

Sebastian Edwards, a junior business major and member of Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity, said he expects a positive outcome for the show.

"Other Greeks will come to support their sorority or fraternity, but there is something for the non-Greeks also," said Edwards. "They will get to see what Greeks do. We don't just party. They will get a chance to view us in a positive and relaxed setting among each other."

Jason's Flick Picks

BY JASON LIMERICK

"Elektra"

What can you say about "Elektra?" It's not a good movie, but it's not a horrible movie either. I'm a little shocked to say, for the most part, I enjoyed myself.

First let me say that if you're a movie snob or a fan of cinema, you'll definitely be disappointed. This is in no way a film. This is a flick. It's full of every cliché you could imagine. The characters are stale cardboard cut-outs with little or no emotional development. It's cheese, but it doesn't pretend to be otherwise.

Jennifer Garner does the bare minimum as far as acting goes. She's basically an emotionless killing machine who sheds one or two tears to show her softer side. You never feel a connection with the character and so the flashback scenes and emotional elements feel tacked on and sometimes silly. The rest of the cast is just as lame,

with the exception of her mentor Stick. Stick is played by veteran actor and genius Terrence Stamp. You may remember him as General Zod from Superman II. I love this guy. He turns the blind master of martial arts that trained Elektra and countless others into a pool shooting, quick-witted, ominous, ass-kicking Yoda.

The fight scenes are well done, and the special effects are at times impressive. It's never that great though; it all feels a little stale, like it's been done before. I think the reason I enjoyed myself so much was because I decided beforehand that this was going to suck. So I went in with low expectations and was kind of refreshed by sitting down to a not-so-heavy handed martial arts movie with over-the-top bad guys and a happy ending.

Overall this is not a good movie, but if you can lighten up you may just find yourself smiling at the end.

★★★★☆

"Sideways"

After I left the theater, and for the rest of the evening after I saw this, all I could think about was how I needed to see "Sideways" again. I was sure it was a four-star movie. I've seen lots of four-star movies, but I can't remember the last time I felt this urge to get back into that plastic chair and get caught right back up in this story. If I could have, I would have watched it back-to-back. "Sideways" is a great film. Oh man, is it a great film. Now that I've had a week or so to think about it, there's no reason I couldn't give it a five-star rating.

Here's the thing about "Sideways." I wanted to see it because I didn't want to see it. Let me explain. I had read about it and seen the preview, and even though I think Paul Giamatti is fantastic and every review was amazing, it's still a movie about two guys who spend a weekend wine tasting. I mean, what could be more boring than that. I had no de-

sire to sit down and watch a couple of guys talk about a nice Bordeaux over some cheese, no matter how funny it was supposed to be. But the hype was huge, and I was in New Orleans where it was playing so I forced myself to give it a try.

If there's one thing I want you to get out of this review it's that this is not a movie about wine tasting. I mean it kind of is but not really. It's more a movie about love, and pain, and anxiety, and loneliness, and maturity, and honesty, and mediocrity and hope. It is amazing in its emotional depth.

The acting is the heart of this movie. Paul Giamatti deserves the Oscar for this. He builds this great character that is so painful to watch but so easy to connect to. You watch his downward spiral and it hurts your heart. It's as close to perfect as a character can get. His partner in this journey is Thomas Haden Church; you may remember him from "Wings" or "George of the Jungle." He plays wonderfully off of Giamatti as an out-of-work

actor looking for a final thrill before getting married. The two head off for a weekend of fun and end up in a series of wacky adventures.

The comedy is brilliant because it's almost voyeuristic. With most comedies you can see it coming, but the comedy in "Sideways" comes from being allowed to see a world you're not supposed to see. This film is a lot like the wine they try so hard to explain. It's full of rich little secrets that you really have to concentrate on to appreciate. It's this living thing that pulls you in and grows with you as it ages. It spills its subtle secrets and hidden pleasures if you give it time. It peaks at just the right moment with an ending that I don't think could have been better.

This is a film for film-lovers, a brilliant little piece of art that had me out of my seat in laughter at times. It's one of my favorites, and I can't wait to watch it again.

★★★★★

Students must request more healthy choices on campus

BY SANELA TOMIC

Despite the national obsession with losing weight, one-third of Americans are not just overweight, but obese. Lack of exercise, poor eating habits and the large cost of buying healthy foods are big contributors to that ongoing problem.

One exception may be The Port, whose new manager Steve Sittenauer added a salad bar and fresh fruits to the menu.

"I got here three to four months ago, and I have noticed that everything on the menu was fried," he said. "We still mostly sell french fries. The salad bar is not real popular, but it gives an extra option for people who want to eat healthier. However, fresh fruit is our best seller."

The salad bar is the first menu item students see as they place their order. That visual display is an attempt to promote more nutritious foods.

This semester, students can find even more additions to the salad bar, like grilled chicken caesar salad or baked potatoes. The management tries to keep the price of those items comparable with the rest of the menu.

Robert E. Lewis, director of auxiliary enterprises, is the person in charge of negotiating with a company which monitors vending-machines on campus on a weekly basis and stocks products that are desired by the students.

"They only stock items that sell rapidly," said Lewis.

However, changes like the introduction of a few low-calorie or low-sodium snacks and drinks are attainable if students demand it. Reconsideration of the vending-machine contracts is possible.

"If students request healthier snacks, we can put it on a list and check with our vendors," said Lewis.

Vendors decide what is sold in their machines, but stu-

dents are ultimately the ones who decide what to spend their money on.

For many students a 75-cent bag of Cheetos, Doritos or M&Ms seems like a better option than a \$3.99 salad.

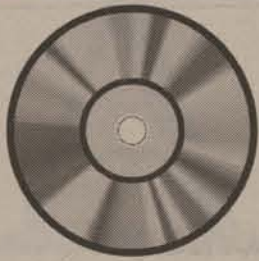


ANDRE MENARD

Angela Bryant, senior history major, selects a snack from an LSUS vending machine.

Are you planning to graduate this May?

Don't forget to pick up your application for graduation in the Admissions office.



Music Review

BY ERIC PULSIFER

Low — "The Great Destroyer"

Somewhere in the list of obscure, nondescript musical genre labels resides one label that couldn't be more straightforward — slowcore. Skeletal music that travels forward with the fury and speed of a three legged tortoise that just downed a bottle of sleeping pills— slowcore is personified by Low, a band who makes music that is as exciting as you can expect from a town called Duluth, Minn.



While this may lead one to wonder why in the world anyone would ever chose to listen to Low, the band's dreary yet beautiful vocal harmonies and rebelliously slow tempos are spellbinding. After the initial shock wears off, listeners can

begin to let go of any preconceived notions of what a rock band should be and experience Low for what they are.

The music is slow — really slow — but what has always been Low's most enchanting quality is the harmonies between Mormon couple guitarist Alan Sparhawk and percussionist Mimi Parker. Both share an equal amount of vocal time and are complimented well by Zak Sally's ominous bass work.

Over the past 10 years and seven full length releases, Low's has made melodies that linger for what seems like a lifetime and rhythms that slowly lurch forward. But all that

was set to change as mummies from the band indicated that this album would break a decade-long track record of misery as Low made the jump to Sub Pop Records.

Slated to sharply contrast the band's previous work, "The Great Destroyer" features only a handful of tracks that slant towards guitar pop, without entirely abandoning the band's trademark style. Although they don't actually cut loose and throw a temper-tantrum, the album is another hypnotic release from Low that retains the band's established sound while picking up the tempo to a more palatable pace and lightening the mix enough to make it

more accessible to new listeners.

Sparhawk and Parker's vocals are still the band's most endearing feature, but the trio has improved its atmospheric with a shroud of thick, dank tones and warm distortion. Though Low's album is perfect for listening in solitude, the band's music is still the best way to ruin any party and/or workout mixtape. While "The Great Destroyer" may not be the album Low needs to break into the mainstream, the transition brings the group one step closer.

★★★★☆

★ Washington Semester

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Interim between Spring Semester and Term I Summer

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Calendar of Events

Thursday, January 27

Welcome Back Bash

10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Overtime
after game

Friday, January 28

Delta Sigma Theta Greek Step
Show

4 p.m. - 10 p.m.

Monday, January 31

Last Day - 60% refund for dropped
courses and resignations

Tuesday, February 1

SAB Meeting

1 p.m. - 2 p.m.

Thursday, February 3

Mardi Gras Celebration

10:30 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.

Welcome Back

HOROSCOPES

*Editor's note: For entertainment
only. Not to be taken seriously!



Aries

(March 21-April 19)

Keep your eyes
open. A new love in-
terest may be coming your way.



Leo

(July 23-Aug. 22)

Everything is going
your way today. En-
joy all your success.



Sagittarius

(Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

You have a secret
admirer. They may
reveal their identity
today.



Taurus

(April 20-May 20)

Get in touch with an
old friend. Spend
time catching up.



Virgo

(Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

Trust your gut in-
stinct. It won't fail
you today.



Capricorn

(Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

Take it easy today.
Forget about all the stress
you've been under this week.



Gemini

(May 21-June 21)

First impressions
can be important.
Look your best today.



Libra

(Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

Stay hopeful. It's
been a bad week but things will
improve.



Aquarius

(Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

Don't put anything
off. Get as much
work done today as you can.



Cancer

(June 22-July 22)

Patience is a virtue.
Things will work
out.



Scorpio

(Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

Don't think more
highly of yourself
than you should. No one likes
arrogance.



Pisces

(Feb. 19-March 20)

Today is all about
you. Enjoy the attention while
it lasts.

The Almagest is trying something new this year. We know that LSUS is full of talented writers. While we always encourage students to get involved with the paper, we know that not everyone prefers that type of writing. We want to invite fiction writers and poets to submit their work to the Almagest for possible publication. We are going to try to leave a special section open for this each week, but due to limited space please keep the piece short. We will take submissions every Friday. We look forward to seeing your work!